

Income Inequality

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Income includes the revenue streams from wages, salaries, interest on a savings account, dividends from shares of stock, rent, and profits from selling something for more than you paid for it.

Economic inequality (also known as the gap between rich and poor) consists of disparities in the distribution of wealth and income.

Source: Boundless. "Growing Gap Between Rich and Poor." Boundless Sociology Boundless, 08 Aug. 2016. Retrieved 18 Jan. 2017 from <https://www.boundless.com/sociology/textbooks/boundless-sociology-textbook/stratification-inequality-and-social-class-in-the-u-s-9/social-mobility-76/growing-gap-between-rich-and-poor-450-2081/>

Income inequality refers to the extent to which **income** is distributed in an uneven manner among a population. In the United States, **income inequality**, or the **gap** between the rich and everyone else, has been growing markedly, by **every major statistical measure**, for some 30 years.

Income disparities have become so pronounced that America's top 10 % now average nearly 9 times as much income as the bottom 90 %. Americans in the top 1 % average over 38 times more income than the bottom 90 %. The divide between the nations top 1% is 184 times the income of the bottom 90 %.

Our only hope today lies in our ability to recapture the revolutionary spirit and go out into a sometimes hostile world declaring eternal hostility to poverty, racism, and militarism... Now let us begin. Now let us rededicate ourselves to the long and better, but beautiful, struggle for a new world.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

What is wealth/Income?

Wealth is private assets minus liabilities (debt). Simply put, wealth is what you own minus what you owe. Wealth is what you have in the bank and the property and investments you own.

Income is your paycheck or government benefit check or dividend check, or your profit from selling an investment, etc.